

LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA
ONE HUNDREDTH LEGISLATURE
SECOND SESSION
LEGISLATIVE BILL 917

Introduced by Fischer, 43.

Read first time January 14, 2008

Committee: Transportation and Telecommunications

A BILL

1 FOR AN ACT relating to the Nebraska Rules of the Road; to amend
2 sections 60-601, 60-605, and 60-6,294, Revised Statutes
3 Cumulative Supplement, 2006; to define a term; to provide
4 an exception to vehicle weight limits for idle reduction
5 technology; to harmonize provisions; and to repeal the
6 original sections.
7 Be it enacted by the people of the State of Nebraska,

1 Section 1. Section 60-601, Revised Statutes Cumulative
2 Supplement, 2006, is amended to read:

3 60-601 Sections 60-601 to 60-6,377 and section 3 of this
4 act shall be known and may be cited as the Nebraska Rules of the
5 Road.

6 Sec. 2. Section 60-605, Revised Statutes Cumulative
7 Supplement, 2006, is amended to read:

8 60-605 For purposes of the Nebraska Rules of the Road,
9 the definitions found in sections 60-606 to 60-676 and section 3 of
10 this act shall be used.

11 Sec. 3. Idle reduction technology means any device or
12 system of devices that is installed on a heavy-duty diesel-powered
13 on-highway truck or truck-tractor and is designed to provide to
14 such truck or truck-tractor those services, such as heat, air
15 conditioning, or electricity, that would otherwise require the
16 operation of the main drive engine while the truck or truck-tractor
17 is temporarily parked or remains stationary.

18 Sec. 4. Section 60-6,294, Revised Statutes Cumulative
19 Supplement, 2006, is amended to read:

20 60-6,294 (1) Every vehicle, whether operated singly or in
21 a combination of vehicles, and every combination of vehicles
22 shall comply with subsections (2) and (3) of this section
23 except as provided in sections 60-6,294.01 and 60-6,297. The
24 limitations imposed by this section shall be supplemental to all
25 other provisions imposing limitations upon the size and weight of

1 vehicles.

2 (2) No wheel of a vehicle or trailer equipped with
 3 pneumatic or solid rubber tires shall carry a gross load in excess
 4 of ten thousand pounds on any highway nor shall any axle carry
 5 a gross load in excess of twenty thousand pounds on any highway.
 6 An axle load shall be defined as the total load transmitted to
 7 the highway by all wheels the centers of which may be included
 8 between two parallel transverse vertical planes forty inches apart
 9 extending across the full width of the vehicle.

10 (3) No group of two or more consecutive axles shall carry
 11 a load in pounds in excess of the value given in the following
 12 table corresponding to the distance in feet between the extreme
 13 axles of the group, measured longitudinally to the nearest foot,
 14 except that the maximum load carried on any group of two or more
 15 axles shall not exceed eighty thousand pounds on the National
 16 System of Interstate and Defense Highways unless the Director-State
 17 Engineer pursuant to section 60-6,295 authorizes a greater weight.

18	Distance in feet						Maximum load in pounds carried
19	between the						on any group of two or more
20	extremes of						consecutive axles
21	any group of						
22	two or more						
23	consecutive	Two	Three	Four	Five	Six	Seven
24	axles	Axles	Axles	Axles	Axles	Axles	Axles

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1	4	34,000				
2	5	34,000				
3	6	34,000				
4	7	34,000				
5	8	34,000	42,000			
6	9	39,000	42,500			
7	10	40,000	43,500			
8	11		44,000			
9	12		45,000	50,000		
10	13		45,500	50,500		
11	14		46,500	51,500		
12	15		47,000	52,000		
13	16		48,000	52,500	58,000	
14	17		48,500	53,500	58,500	
15	18		49,500	54,000	59,000	
16	19		50,000	54,500	60,000	
17	20		51,000	55,500	60,500	
18	21		51,500	56,000	61,000	
19	22		52,500	56,500	61,500	
20	23		53,000	57,500	62,500	
21	24		54,000	58,000	63,000	
22	25		54,500	58,500	63,500	69,000
23	26		55,500	59,500	64,000	69,500
24	27		56,000	60,000	65,000	70,000
25	28		57,000	60,500	65,500	71,000

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1	29	57,500	61,500	66,000	71,500	
2	30	58,500	62,000	66,500	72,000	
3	31	59,000	62,500	67,500	72,500	
4	32	60,000	63,500	68,000	73,000	
5	33		64,000	68,500	74,000	
6	34		64,500	69,000	74,500	
7	35		65,500	70,000	75,000	
8	36		66,000	70,500	75,500	
9	37		66,500	71,000	76,000	81,500
10	38		67,500	72,000	77,000	82,000
11	39		68,000	72,500	77,500	82,500
12	40		68,500	73,000	78,000	83,500
13	41		69,500	73,500	78,500	84,000
14	42		70,000	74,000	79,000	84,500
15	43		70,500	75,000	80,000	85,000
16	44		71,500	75,500	80,500	85,500
17	45		72,000	76,000	81,000	86,000
18	46		72,500	76,500	81,500	87,000
19	47		73,500	77,500	82,000	87,500
20	48		74,000	78,000	83,000	88,000
21	49		74,500	78,500	83,500	88,500
22	50		75,500	79,000	84,000	89,000
23	51		76,000	80,000	84,500	89,500
24	52		76,500	80,500	85,000	90,500
25	53		77,500	81,000	86,000	91,000

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1	54	78,000	81,500	86,500	91,500
2	55	78,500	82,500	87,000	92,000
3	56	79,500	83,000	87,500	92,500
4	57	80,000	83,500	88,000	93,000
5	58		84,000	89,000	94,000
6	59		85,000	89,500	94,500
7	60		85,500	90,000	95,000

8 (4) The distance between axles shall be measured to the
9 nearest foot. When a fraction is exactly one-half foot, the next
10 larger whole number shall be used, except that:

11 (a) Any group of three axles shall be restricted to a
12 maximum load of thirty-four thousand pounds unless the distance
13 between the extremes of the first and third axles is at least
14 ninety-six inches in fact; and

15 (b) The maximum gross load on any group of two axles,
16 the distance between the extremes of which is more than eight feet
17 but less than eight feet six inches, shall be thirty-eight thousand
18 pounds.

19 (5) The limitations of subsections (2) through (4) of
20 this section shall apply as stated to all main, rural, and
21 intercity highways but shall not be construed as inhibiting heavier
22 axle loads in metropolitan areas, except on the National System of
23 Interstate and Defense Highways, if such loads are not prohibited
24 by city ordinance.

1 (6) The weight limitations of wheel and axle loads as
2 defined in subsections (2) through (4) of this section shall be
3 restricted to the extent deemed necessary by the Department of
4 Roads for a reasonable period when road subgrades or pavements are
5 weak or are materially weakened by climatic conditions.

6 (7) Two consecutive sets of tandem axles may carry a
7 gross load of thirty-four thousand pounds each when the overall
8 distance between the first and last axles of such consecutive sets
9 of tandem axles is thirty-six, thirty-seven, or thirty-eight feet
10 except as provided in section 60-6,297. Such vehicles shall be
11 subject to section 60-6,301.

12 (8) If any vehicle crosses a bridge with a total gross
13 load in excess of the posted capacity of such bridge and as a
14 result of such crossing any damage results to the bridge, the owner
15 of such vehicle shall be responsible for all of such damage.

16 (9) Vehicles equipped with a greater number of axles than
17 provided in the tables in subsection (3) of this section shall be
18 legal if they do not exceed the maximum load upon any wheel or
19 axle, the maximum load upon any group of two or more consecutive
20 axles, and the total gross weight, or any of such weights as
21 provided in subsections (2) and (3) of this section.

22 (10) Subsections (1) through (9) of this section shall
23 not apply to a vehicle which has been issued a permit pursuant to
24 section 60-6,299, a rubber-tired crane with a fixed load when the
25 requirements of subdivision (2)(i) of section 60-6,288 are met, or

1 an emergency vehicle when the requirements of subdivision (1) (a) (v)
2 of section 60-6,298 are met.

3 (11) Any two consecutive axles the centers of which are
4 more than forty inches and not more than ninety-six inches apart,
5 measured to the nearest inch between any two adjacent axles in
6 the series, shall be defined as tandem axles, and the gross weight
7 transmitted to the road surface through such series shall not
8 exceed thirty-four thousand pounds. No axle of the series shall
9 exceed the maximum weight permitted under this section for a single
10 axle.

11 (12) Dummy axles shall be disregarded in determining the
12 lawful weight of a vehicle or vehicle combination for operation on
13 the highway. Dummy axle shall mean an axle attached to a vehicle
14 or vehicle combination in a manner so that it does not articulate
15 or substantially equalize the load and does not carry at least
16 the lesser of eight thousand pounds or eight percent of the gross
17 weight of the vehicle or vehicle combination.

18 The maximum gross weight limit and the axle weight
19 limit for any vehicle or combination of vehicles equipped with
20 idle reduction technology may be increased by an amount necessary
21 to compensate for the additional weight of the idle reduction
22 technology as provided in 23 U.S.C. 127(a)(12), as such section
23 existed on the effective date of this act. The additional amount
24 of weight allowed by this subsection shall not exceed four hundred
25 pounds and shall not be construed to be in addition to the

1 five-percent-in-excess-of-maximum-load provision of subdivision (1)
2 of section 60-6,301.

3 Sec. 5. Original sections 60-601, 60-605, and 60-6,294,
4 Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2006, are repealed.